under TUFS, have been exteneded the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

v) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focussed steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of ocmpetitive downstream textile products.

vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

vii) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.

viii) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.

ix) A special package of incentives for the textile sector has been announced in the Budget 2002-03.

Export of Silk

1891. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of silk exported to different countries during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and till date;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom during this period; and

(c) the details of incentive given by Government to silk producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Data interms of quantity exported country-wise is not available. The

year-wise and country-wise foreign exchange earned through export of silk items during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and April to October 2001-2002 is given below:—

(Provisional figures; Value: Crore Rs.)

Country	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02 (April-October)
U.S.A.	591.16	869.07	352.04
Germany	164.82	218.63	90.37
U.K.	176.26	185.65	92.48
Hong Kong	105.53	149.51	133.15
Italy	127.78	176.70	60.05
U.A.E.	60.18	88.77	58.91
Singapore	36.47	65.68	37.43
France	81.46	94.66	39.70
Spain	45.32	78.05	30.81
Saudi Arabia	19.18	25.98	60.70
Canada	32.09	44.18	20.45
Japan	29.97	54.31	15.45
Others	285.33	370.13	213.02
GRAND TOTAL:	1755.55	2421.32	1204.56

SOURCE: Foreign Trade Statistics of India (Principal Commodities & Countries), DGCI&S, Kolkata.

(c) The Government is taking several steps to increase the exports of silk products:—

(i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.

(ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the Exim Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.

(iii) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available *inter-alia* to the silk sector.

(iv) Govt. have initiated a production programme of high quality of bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk and its productivity & cost competitiveness.

(v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.

High negative growth shown by export-oriented units

1892. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export-oriented units in textile sector have posted high negative growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to assist these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) The